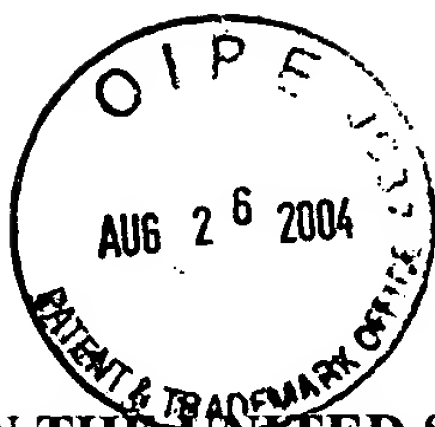


PERCUS.141A



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : McGill et al.
Appl. No. : 09/976,679
Filed : October 12, 2001
For : METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR
PROTECTING THE PROXIMAL
END OF A MEDICAL DEVICE
Examiner : Jessica R. Baxter
Group Art Unit : 3731

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence and all marked attachments are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on

August 23, 2004

(Date)

David L. Hauser, Reg. No. 42,463

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL

Mail Stop AF

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

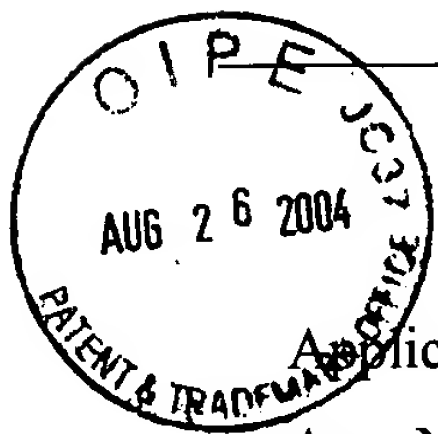
In response to the final Office Action of June 28, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 4 of this paper.

Docket No.: PERCUS.141A

Customer No.: 20,995



AMENDMENT / RESPONSE TRANSMITTAL

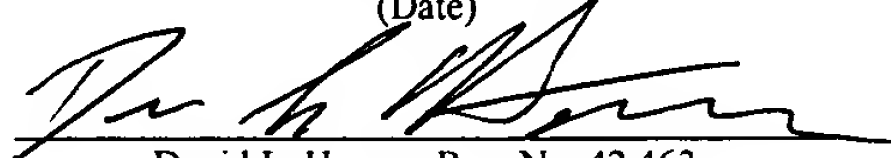
Applicant : McGill et al.
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August 23, 2004

(Date)


David L. Hauser, Reg. No. 42,463

MAIL STOP AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for filing in the above-identified application are the following enclosures:

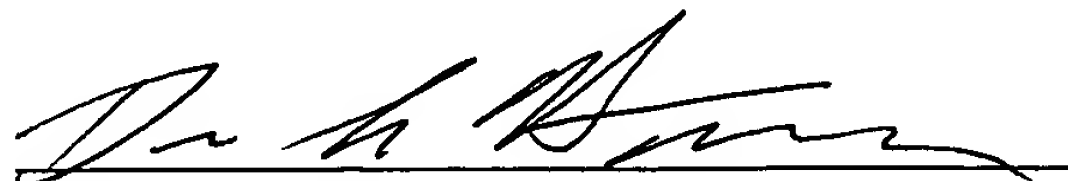
(X) Amendment After Final in 5 pages.

The fee has been calculated as shown below:

FEE CALCULATION				
FEE TYPE		FEE CODE	CALCULATION	TOTAL
Total Claims	9 - 16 =	1202 (\$18)	x 18 =	\$0
Independent Claims	2 - 4 =	1201 (\$86)	x 86 =	\$0
Multiple Claim		1203 (\$290)		\$
1 Month Extension		1251 (\$110)		\$
2 Month Extension		1252 (\$420)		\$
3 Month Extension		1253 (\$950)		\$
			TOTAL FEE DUE	\$0

(X) Return prepaid postcard.

- (X) Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.



David L. Hauser

Registration No. 42,463

Attorney of Record

Customer No. 20,995

(949) 760-0404